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HOUSE BILL 1830

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State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Representatives O'Brien, Pearson and Anderson

Read first time 01/30/2007. Referred to Committee on Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the emergency transportation grant  
2 program; amending RCW 82.26.020; adding new sections to chapter 18.73  
3 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.135 RCW; and creating a new  
4 section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

7 (a) The preservation of life is a fundamental purpose of  
8 government;

9 (b) Public and private ambulances are among the first responders to  
10 a disaster by providing transportation services for trauma victims and  
11 the infirm; and

12 (c) Improving public and private ambulance service will improve the  
13 surge capacity of the state to respond in the event of a major  
14 disaster.

15 (2) The legislature intends to further the fundamental governmental  
16 purpose of preserving life by providing grants to both public and  
17 private ambulance services to improve their ability to respond to the  
18 critical needs of Washington citizens in the event of a disaster.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 18.73 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        (1) There is established in the department of community, trade, and  
4 economic development an emergency transportation grant program to  
5 enhance the ability of public and private ambulance services to respond  
6 to the critical needs of Washington citizens in the event of a  
7 disaster.

8        (2) Activities and equipment funded through this program must  
9 achieve measurable goals in one or more of the following areas:

10        (a) The preparedness of ambulance services to meet the needs of  
11 state and local emergency management officials in the event of a  
12 disaster;

13        (b) The capacity of ambulance services to quickly increase their  
14 service levels to meet the increased demand caused by a disaster; or

15        (c) The ability of ambulance services to redistribute ambulances  
16 from areas unaffected by a disaster to areas affected by the disaster.

17        (3) At a minimum, grant applications must address:

18        (a) A description of the geographic area covered by the ambulance  
19 service;

20        (b) A description of the current level of ambulance services in the  
21 area and their ability to meet the needs of the area in the event of a  
22 disaster; and

23        (c) An explanation of the measurable goals to be achieved by the  
24 grant funds and a description of the necessary performance measures  
25 needed to effectively monitor whether the goals are being achieved in  
26 an effective and efficient manner.

27        (4) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated by the  
28 legislature for this purpose from the emergency transportation grant  
29 account and other sources, the department of community, trade, and  
30 economic development shall make awards under the grant program.

31        (a) Awards shall be made competitively based on the purposes and  
32 criteria in this section.

33        (b) Activities or equipment funded under this section may be  
34 considered for funding in future years, but shall be considered under  
35 the same terms and criteria as new applications for activities or  
36 equipment. Funding of an activity or equipment under this section  
37 shall not constitute an obligation by the state of Washington to  
38 provide ongoing funding.

1 (c) The department of community, trade, and economic development  
2 may receive such gifts, grants, and endowments from public or private  
3 sources as may be made from time to time, in trust or otherwise, for  
4 the use and benefit of the purposes of the grant program established in  
5 this section and expend the same or any income from these sources  
6 according to the terms of the gifts, grants, or endowments.

7 (5) The department of community, trade, and economic development  
8 shall submit an annual report to the governor and the legislature  
9 describing projects funded by the grant program.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 18.73 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 The emergency transportation grant account is created in the state  
13 treasury. Receipts from the tax on the sale, handling, or distribution  
14 of tobacco products under RCW 82.26.020(3)(a) must be deposited into  
15 the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after  
16 appropriation. Expenditures from the account may only be used for the  
17 emergency transportation grant program created in section 2 of this  
18 act.

19 **Sec. 4.** RCW 82.26.020 and 2005 c 180 s 3 are each amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 (1) There is levied and there shall be collected a tax upon the  
22 sale, handling, or distribution of all tobacco products in this state  
23 at the following rate:

24 (a) Seventy-five percent of the taxable sales price of cigars, not  
25 to exceed fifty cents per cigar; or

26 (b) Seventy-five percent of the taxable sales price of all tobacco  
27 products that are not cigars.

28 (2) Taxes under this section shall be imposed at the time the  
29 distributor (a) brings, or causes to be brought, into this state from  
30 without the state tobacco products for sale, (b) makes, manufactures,  
31 fabricates, or stores tobacco products in this state for sale in this  
32 state, (c) ships or transports tobacco products to retailers in this  
33 state, to be sold by those retailers, or (d) handles for sale any  
34 tobacco products that are within this state but upon which tax has not  
35 been imposed.

1 (3) The moneys collected under this section shall be deposited as  
2 follows:

3 (a) (~~Thirty-seven~~) Sixteen percent in the emergency  
4 transportation grant account created under section 3 of this act;

5 (b) Twenty-one percent in the general fund;

6 (~~(b)~~) (c) Fifty percent in the health services account created  
7 under RCW 43.72.900; and

8 (~~(e)~~) (d) Thirteen percent in the water quality account under RCW  
9 70.146.030 for the period beginning July 1, 2005, through June 30,  
10 2021, and in the general fund for the period beginning July 1, 2021.

11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 43.135 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 RCW 43.135.035(4) does not apply to RCW 82.26.020(3)(a).

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